# DAILY PRAYER
# FOR INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES

These brief services are intended as a simple form of daily prayer of individuals, families, and other settings.

When more than one person is present, the versicles and responses may be spoken responsively, with one person reading the words in regular type and the others responding with the words in bold type. Prayers may be prayed in the same fashion, though those in bold type are to be prayed by all.

For the readings, several verses have been recommended for each particular time of day. These may be used on a rotating basis. The value in using these few texts lies in the opportunity to learn them well. For those desiring a more complete selection of readings, daily lectionaries, such as those found in the hymnal may be used. Readings from the Small Catechism may also be incorporated into the services.

In the prayers "for others and ourselves," the following suggestions are intended to establish a pattern of daily and weekly prayer.

**Sunday:** For the joy of the resurrection among us; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and the Sacraments.

**Monday:** For faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for one's calling and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for schools, colleges, and seminaries; for good government and for peace.

**Tuesday:** For deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with sin.

**Wednesday:** For marriage and family, that husbands and wives, parents and children live in ordered harmony according to the Word of God; for parents who must raise children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods.

**Thursday:** For the Church and her pastors; for teachers, deacons and deaconesses, for missionaries, and for all who serve the Church; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed Sacrament of Christ's body and blood.

**Friday:** For the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for the spread of His knowledge throughout the whole world; for the persecuted and oppressed; for the sick and dying.

**Saturday:** For faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts and minds to God's Word on the Lord's Day; for pastors and people as they prepare to administer and receive Christ's holy gifts.

# MORNING

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
**Amen.**

O Lord, in the morning you hear my voice;
**in the morning I prepare a sacrifice for you and watch.** *Psalm 5:3*

My mouth is filled with Your praise,
**and with your glory all the day.** *Psalm 71:8*

O Lord, open my lips,
**and my mouth will declare your praise.** *Psalm 51:15*

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen**.

*A hymn, canticle, or psalm may be sung or spoken.*

*An appointed reading or one of the following is read: Colossians 3:1–4; Exodus 15:1–11; Isaiah 12:1–6; Matthew 20:1–16; Mark 13:32–36; Luke 24:1–8; John 21:4–14; Ephesians 4:17–24; Romans 6:1–4.*

*A portion of the Small or Large Catechism may be read.*

*The Apostles' Creed is confessed.*

*Lord's Prayer*

*Prayers for others and ourselves*

*Concluding prayers:*

Almighty God, merciful Father, who created and completed all things, on this day when the work of our calling begins anew, we implore You to create its beginning, direct its continuance, and bless its end, that our doings may be preserved from sin, our life sanctified, and our work this day be well pleasing to You; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

**I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.**
*Small Catechism*

Let us bless the Lord.
**Thanks be to God.**

*Then go joyfully to your work.*

# NOON

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
**Amen.**

Listen to my prayer, O God, do not ignore my plea;
**hear my prayer and answer me.**

Evening, morning, and noon
**I cry out in distress and He hears my voice.**

Cast your cares on the Lord and He will sustain you;
**He will never let the righteous fall.** *Psalm 55:1, 16–17, 22*

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

*A hymn, canticle, or psalm may be sung or said.*

*An appointed reading or one of the following is read: 1 Corinthians 7:17a, 23–24; Luke 23:44-46; Matthew 5:13–16; Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23; Mark 13:23–27; John 15:1–9; Romans 7:18–25; Romans 12:1–2; 1 Peter 1:3–9; Revelation 7:13–17.*

O Lord,
**have mercy upon us.**
O Christ,
**have mercy upon us.**
O Lord,
**have mercy upon us.**

*Lord's Prayer*

*Prayers for others and ourselves*

*Concluding prayer:*

Blessed Lord Jesus Christ, at this hour You hung upon the cross, stretching out Your loving arms to embrace the world in Your death. Grant that all people of the earth may look to You and see their salvation; for your mercy's sake we pray. **Amen.**

[OR]

Heavenly Father, send Your Holy Spirit into our hearts, to direct and rule us according to Your will, to comfort us in all our afflictions, to defend us from all error, and to lead us into all truth; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.
**Thanks be to God.**

# EARLY EVENING

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
**Amen.**

*A candle may be lighted.*

Let my prayer rise before You as incense;
**the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.** *Psalm 141:2*

Joyous light of glory
**of the immortal Father;
heavenly, holy, blessed Jesus Christ.
We have come to the setting of the sun,
and we look to the evening light.
We sing to God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit:
You are worthy of being praised with pure voices forever.
O Son of God, O giver of life: the universe proclaims Your glory.**

*A hymn, canticle, or psalm may be sung or said.*

*An appointed reading or one of the following is read: Luke 24:28–31; Exodus 16:11–21, 31; Isaiah 25:6–9; Matthew 14:15–21; Matthew 27:57–60; Luke 14:15–24; John 6:25–35; John 10:7–18; Ephesians 6:10–18.*

*A portion of the Small or Large Catechism may be read.*

*Lord's Prayer*

*Prayers for others and ourselves*

*Concluding prayer:*

Lord Jesus, stay with us, for the evening is at hand and the day is past. Be our constant companion on the way, kindle our hearts, and awaken hope among us, that we may recognize You as You are revealed in the Scriptures and in the Breaking of the Bread. Grant this for Your Name's sake. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.
**Thanks be to God.**

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*Mealtime Prayers:*
*Asking a blessing before the meal*
**Lord God, heavenly Father, bless us and these Your gifts which we receive from Your bountiful goodness, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

*Returning thanks after the meal*
**We thank You, Lord God, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, for all Your benefits, who lives and reigns with You forever and ever. Amen.**

# CLOSE OF THE DAY

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
**Amen.**

The Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night and peace at the last.
**Amen.**

It is good to give thanks to the Lord,
**to sing praise to Your name, O Most High;**

To herald Your love in the morning,
**Your truth at the close of the day.**

*An appointed reading or one of the following is read: Matthew 11:28–30; Micah 7:18–20; Matthew 18:15–35; Matthew 25:1–13; Luke 11:1–13; Luke 12:13–34; Romans 8:31–39; 2 Corinthians 4:16–18; Revelation 21:22–22:5.*

*The Apostles' Creed is confessed.*

**Lord, now You let Your servant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled.**
**My own eyes have seen the salvation**
**which You have prepared in the sight of every people:**
**a light to lighten the nations**
**and the glory of Your people Israel.** *Luke 2:29–32*
**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;**
**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

*Lord's Prayer*

*Prayers for others and ourselves*

*Concluding prayer:*

Visit our dwellings, O Lord, and in Your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of Your only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.** *Small Catechism*

Let us bless the Lord.
**Thanks be to God.**

*Then go to sleep at once and in good cheer.*